

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing amendment to the Specification is requested to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2).

The claims of the subject application have been amended to avoid multiple dependency. Favorable consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

In the claims:

Claim 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10 have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) Device according to ~~either of claims 1 and 2~~, in which the impact size of the laser beam on the object is greater than or equal to 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. (Amended) Device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, in which the displacement frequency of the object (2) between two laser pulses of the source (6) is greater than or equal to 15 Hz.

5. (Amended) Device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, in which the source (6) is capable to emitting ultraviolet light.

6. (Amended) Device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, in which the relative variation of energy between 1 laser pulse and the next does not exceed 5%.

7. (Amended) Device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, in which the diaphragm (8) comprises a circular aperture capable of selecting the central part of the laser beam output from the laser source, the first optical means are refractive optical means, and the second optical means are refractive optical means comprising a microscope objective (12).

9. (Amended) Device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~, also comprising means (38) of blowing a gas jet onto the object (2).

10. (Amended) Device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~, also comprising:  
- means (32) of observing the object, so that the object can be placed in the image plane of the diaphragm and  
- a mirror (26) reflecting at the wavelength of the laser source and transparent at other wavelengths, this mirror being placed on the light path between the first and second optical means and designed to reflect almost the entire laser beam to these second optical means and to transmit an image of the object to the observation means.

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Claims 11-17 have been added.

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